

HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY
BUILDING AND STRUCTURES
 HIST-6 NEW 5/77

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
 CONNECTICUT HISTORICAL COMMISSION
 59 SOUTH PROSPECT STREET, HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06106
 (203) 566-3005

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY	
Town No.:	Site No.:
UTM:	
QUAD:	
DISTRICT:	IF NR, SPECIFY
<input type="checkbox"/> S <input type="checkbox"/> NR	<input type="checkbox"/> Actual <input type="checkbox"/> Potential

IDENTIFICATION	
1. BUILDING NAME (Common)	
James Brown House	
2. TOWN CITY	VILLAGE
Berlin	Kensington
3. STREET AND NUMBER (and/or location)	
500 New Britain Road 9-1/47/3	
4. OWNER(S)	
Richard V. & Pedemont, Susan D. 816 Beckley Road Kensington 06037	
5. USE (Present)	
Residence	
6. ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
7. STYLE OF BUILDING	
Victorian vernacular	
8. MATERIAL(S) (Indicate use or location when appropriate)	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Clapboard <input type="checkbox"/> Asbestos Siding <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Brick <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) foundation <input type="checkbox"/> Wood Shingle <input type="checkbox"/> Asphalt Siding <input type="checkbox"/> Fieldstone <input type="checkbox"/> Board & Batten <input type="checkbox"/> Stucco <input type="checkbox"/> Cobblestone <input type="checkbox"/> Aluminum Siding <input type="checkbox"/> Concrete Type: <input type="checkbox"/> Cut stone Type:	
9. STRUCTURAL SYSTEM	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Wood frame <input type="checkbox"/> Post and beam <input type="checkbox"/> balloon <input type="checkbox"/> Load bearing masonry <input type="checkbox"/> Structural iron or steel <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	
10. ROOF (Type)	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gable <input type="checkbox"/> Flat <input type="checkbox"/> Mansard <input type="checkbox"/> Monitor <input type="checkbox"/> sawtooth <input type="checkbox"/> Gambrel <input type="checkbox"/> Shed <input type="checkbox"/> Hip <input type="checkbox"/> Round <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	
11. NUMBER OF STORIES	
2 1/2	
APPROXIMATE DIMENSIONS	
16' x 28' (main portion)	
12. CONDITION (Structural)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good <input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated <input type="checkbox"/> Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good <input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	
13. INTEGRITY (Location)	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> On original site <input type="checkbox"/> Moved <input type="checkbox"/> WHEN? (Alterations) <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
14. RELATED OUTBUILDINGS OR LANDSCAPE FEATURES	
<input type="checkbox"/> Barn <input type="checkbox"/> Shed <input type="checkbox"/> Garage <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other landscape features or buildings (Specify) on knoll <input type="checkbox"/> Carriage house <input type="checkbox"/> Shop <input type="checkbox"/> Garden	
15. SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT	
<input type="checkbox"/> Open land <input type="checkbox"/> Wood-land <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Residential <input type="checkbox"/> Scattered buildings visible from site <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Indus-trial <input type="checkbox"/> Rural <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> High building density	
16. INTERRELATIONSHIP OF BUILDING AND SURROUNDINGS	
On knoll overlooking Kensington center.	

IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIPTION

DESCRIPTION (Continued)	17 OTHER NOTABLE FEATURES OF BUILDING OR SITE (interior and/or exterior) The James Brown House has a two-bay front gable and two full-height side ells. Windows have molded surrounds and are fitted with 2-over-2 sash. The house has plain corner boards and both front and side gables have interlaced chamfered peak-bracing and molded cornices. The main entry is contained in the front wall of the left ell, and is protected by a flat-roofed one-story porch. The porch has square chamfered posts and pilasters, a cut-out slat rail, chamfered post braces, and a plain frieze with small jigsaw brackets. The heavy, paneled entry door is original. The first floor of the left ell has a one-story, flat-roofed, bracketed bay window with a paneled base.	
	18 ARCHITECT	BUILDER
SIGNIFICANCE	19 HISTORICAL OR ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE The James Brown House is a well-preserved example of Victorian Vernacular architecture. Like many homes built in the last third of the 19th century, its appearance is enriched by a variety of features that do not conform to a single style. The relatively steep gable peaks, corner boards, and gable bracing suggest the influence of the Stick Style, a mode of Victorian building influenced by the Gothic Revival movement. True Stick Style designs generally include horizontal bands as well as corner boards and feature elaborately decorated wall surfaces. The house also reflects Italianate influences in the bracketed bay window and fancy porch. James Brown, about whom little could be discovered, bought the land on which the house stands in 1883. He retained ownership until 1927, when he sold the house to his daughter, Elizabeth Brown.	
	SOURCES Berlin Land Records 38:368 (1883)	
COMPILED BY	PHOTO PHOTOGRAPHER HRC DATE 11/84 VIEW NW NEGATIVE ON FILE A31A NAME Historic Resource Consultants DATE 12/84 The Colt Armory 55 Van Dyke Avenue Hartford, Connecticut 06106	
	20 SUBSEQUENT FIELD EVALUATIONS	

